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Assistant Director for Operations

8 April 1955

Chief, Foreign Documents Division

FDD Monthly Progress Report - March 1955

ADMINISTRATION

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1. The total personnel on duty as of 31 March was [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] were on special assignment to NSA for two and four weeks, respectively. [REDACTED] has been on special assignment to DD/P/FE since 7 March.

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3. [REDACTED] returned to duty on 24 March after four months' temporary duty in [REDACTED]

OPERATIONS

1. The 45th and 46th meetings of the Subcommittee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications were held 11 and 25 March, respectively. The review of the China program was completed. It was agreed 1) to combine the three China information reports, the weekly economic, the biweekly sociological, and the monthly military into one "Weekly Information Report on Communist"; 2) to discontinue the "Index of Two Chinese Communist Newspapers" and the "Tables of Contents of Chinese Communist Periodicals"; and 3) to develop periodical exploitation, on a selective basis, with the aim of reviewing significant articles only.

2. Reference to the CTS Index prevented 67 cases of duplication totaling 2536 pages.

3. During the month the first of two new scheduled reports were issued:

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"Quarterly Report on Changes in Soviet Foreign Trade Personnel" [REDACTED]
"Index of 'Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR'" (Reference Aid) --
Semiannual

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[REDACTED]
Summary series report with the new title "Supplementary Survey of Soviet Scientific Abstracts."

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4. During the month personnel from the Far East and Western World Branches were briefed on Industrial Register operations at IR.

5. On 3 and 15 March, Chief, FDD conferred with the Assistant to the Director for Planning and Coordination and representatives of DD/P relative to the renewal of the War Documents Project. It was proposed that FDD handle DD/P requirements for research in captured German documents. It was estimated that 33 man-months will be required for such research, to begin in June 1955. FDD proposed that in satisfaction of these requirements 20 man-months of its own personnel be used on regular time and 13 man-months on an overtime basis, the funds required for needed overtime to be provided by DD/P.

6. Conferences were held with 28 branches of ORR to discuss the effectiveness of the FDD Eastern Europe program vis-a-vis ORR needs.

7. Deputy Chief, FDD spoke on FDD operations at the Clandestine Services Review Course No. 3 on 14 March.

8. Commendations:

From Army representative to NSCID-16 Subcommittee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications on the monthly China military report, stating that this is the best CIA report on China.

From Chief, Physics and Electronics Division, OSI, for FDD Summaries Nos. 346 and 352 "Soviet Navigation Radar Station 'Neptune,' Parts I and II," coordinated by [REDACTED]

25X1A From Chief, Language and External Training School, OTR, for [REDACTED] seminar in conversational Arabic and for his assistance in the Arabic proficiency examination.

9. Liaison activities:

With Office of Intelligence Research, Department of State, to discuss information needed for MIS studies on Bulgaria.

10. Special services rendered:

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11. Significant reports:

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[REDACTED] "Trends in Preventive Medicine in USSR"

[REDACTED] "Photographs of Water Pumps and Generators
of Soviet Atomic Power Plant"

FID Summary No. 381 -- "Annual Report on USSR Republic
Budgets" [Comparative survey of Republic Budgets 1946-54]

FID Translation No. 352 -- "Soviet Navigation Radar Station
'Neptun,' Part II"

J. J. BAGNALL

Enclosures: 2

1. Statistical Report on FID Operations
2. Details on Personnel Actions

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